

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 have been examined, and claims 1-3, 5, and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter.

### **I. Preliminary matters**

#### **A. Objection to the drawings**

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because certain reference numerals are not shown in certain figures. For example, the Examiner alleges that Fig. 17 does not illustrate reference numeral 511. Applicants submit that the figure does show the reference numeral as the collection of elements 512-514. With respect to the remaining grounds of the objection, Applicants submit that the amendments to the specification and drawings overcome them.

#### **B. Objection to the abstract**

The Examiner seems to object to the abstract because it uses the term “means.” Applicants submit that the amendments to the abstract overcome the objection.

### **II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,539,436 to Wilson et al. (“Wilson”)**

Claims 1-3, 5, and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilson. Applicant submits that the claims are patentable over the cited reference.

#### **A. Claim 1**

Claim 1 comprises a supply unit arranging part and a carriage part, and the carriage part moves along a vicinity of the supply unit arranging part. The Examiner maintains that, in

Wilson, the housing 12 suggests the claimed supply unit arranging part and that the carriage assembly 18 teaches the carriage part 18. (Page 4 of Office Action). However, as Fig. 1c clearly shows, the housing 12 is part of the carriage assembly 18, and thus, the alleged carriage part 18 does not move along a vicinity of the alleged supply unit arranging part 12.

**B. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6**

Since claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 depend upon claim 1, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**III. Allowable subject matter**

The Examiner has objected to claim 4 for being dependent upon rejected base claim 1. Since the rejection of claim 1 is overcome, Applicants submit that the objection to claim 4 is likewise overcome.

**IV. Newly added claims**

Applicants have added new claims 7-19 to provide more varied protection for the invention. Since claim 9 states that the carriage moves relative to the housing and since claim 17 states that the carriage moves relative to the first and second liquid containers, Applicants submit that they are patentable for at least these reasons. Also, since claims 7, 8, 10-16, 18, and 19 depend upon claim 1, 9, or 17, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**V. Conclusion**

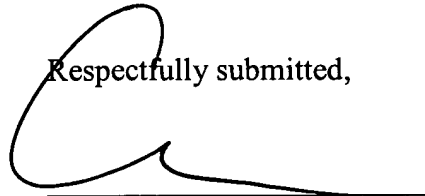
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

Please replace Figs. 10, 14, and 19 with the enclosed Annotated Sheets.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets